

## **Amateur Football Combination Report – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

In the Premier Division, UCL Academicals travelled to HAC and shared the points in a tightly fought draw. The first half was scoreless, but HAC opened the scoring on the hour mark after dominating the early exchanges of the half, as a good move from defence released Simon Ball on the right, and his cross to the back post was headed home by Steve Onyems. The game turned as Ian Roberts came on as a substitute, and Accies quickly equalised as a pass from Roberts found Gareth Jones, whose cross fell to Innis Pirrie who shimmied from his left to his right and fired home from six yards. Accies soon added a second as a defensive mistake allowed to Eamon Rabie cross for debutant Dave Coates to head home with his first touch for the club. HAC piled on the pressure in the final quarter of an hour, and with ten minutes to go, Dan Chantler was adjudged to have pulled back Nick Weinberg in the penalty box, and once the protests had died down, Colin Gardner converted for a 2-2 draw and a deserved share of the points leaving Accies keeper Dawson kicking the goalpost in frustration.

In the other top flight game, visiting Meadonians started strongly against Bealonians, but the home side weathered the storm and looked increasingly secure in defence as the half progressed. The only clear first half chances fell to the home team midway, John Brown crossing for Sam Bowen, who had the whole goal begging, but headed straight at Kris Sayers who saved easily. Ten minutes before half-time Steve Lovell's header went wide for the visitors, The game remained tight and scoreless for much the second half, until with fifteen minutes to go a bouncing ball in the area was handled by Ally McCombe of Meadonians, and John Bryson stepped up convert the spot kick. Bealonians pressed for a second goal, and both Leon Smith and Peter Eguae had chances on the break for Meadonians, but lost Dwayne Rhone and Jack Costello to injuries, and the result was sealed as Sam Bowen cut inside his man, and chipped the ball home from twenty yards to give Bealonians a deserved 2-0 win. Meadonians second defeat of the season leaves the title race wide open, for what may prove to be the closest fight for some years.

In AFA Senior Cup action, Senior One side Old Ignatians travelled Premier Division Parmiterians, and despite starting brightly fell behind to Scott Moore. Ignatians quickly hit back, Tom Cahill capitalising on a mix-up to slot the ball into an empty net. Into the second half and Cahill added his second, but Parmiterians fought back and having missed chances through equalised through Jay Jacques. With five minutes to go Steve Franklin curled the ball from twenty five yards out into the top corner to clinch a 3-2 win.

Old Hamptonians faced Southgate Olympic and opened the scoring after 35 minutes Stuart Brownlie for Matt Harrison to head home the opener. The second half was a feisty affair, but Hamptonians sealed the win as Brownlie crossed for Ian Yates to blast home from 30 yards. Hampton played keep-ball for the remainder of the game to run out comfortable 2-0 winners.

Old Aloysians also progressed to the next round comfortably, Danny O'Donahue, Charlie Taylor and Chris Thomas netting in a 3-0 win away to Old Chigwellians.